UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

STATE OF NEW YORK, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Case No. 21 Civ. 462 (JPO)

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, et ano.,

Defendants.

STIPULATION AND [PROPOSED]
CONSENT ORDER FURTHER
STAYING THE PROCEEDING

WHEREAS, on or about January 19, 2021, the State of New York, State of California,
State of Connecticut, State of Delaware, State of Illinois, State of Maine, State of Maryland,
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, People of the State of Michigan, State of Minnesota, State of
New Jersey, State of New Mexico, State of North Carolina, State of Oregon, Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania, State of Vermont, State of Washington, State of Wisconsin, King County
Washington, City of Chicago, and City of New York (collectively, "Plaintiffs") filed a complaint
in the above-captioned matter (the "Complaint") against the United States Environmental
Protection Agency and Michael S. Regan, as Administrator of the United States Environmental

WHEREAS, the Complaint seeks, *inter alia*, a declaration that the final rule entitled "Strengthening Transparency in Pivotal Science Underlying Significant Regulatory Actions and Influential Scientific Information," 86 Fed. Reg. 469 (Jan. 6, 2021) ("Final Rule"), is in excess of

¹ Administrator Michael S. Regan is automatically substituted in place of former Administrator Andrew R. Wheeler pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 25(d).

EPA's statutory jurisdiction, authority, or limitations; is not in accordance with law; and is arbitrary and capricious; and vacatur of the Final Rule;

WHEREAS, on February 1, 2021, the United States District Court for the District of Montana ordered that the "Final Rule is hereby vacated and remanded to the Environmental Protection Agency," *Envt'l Def. Fund v. U.S. EPA*, No. 4:21-cv-00003-BMM, Docket No. 38 (D. Mont. Feb. 1, 2021), at 2 (the "Montana Order");

WHEREAS, EPA is evaluating appropriate next steps in light of the Montana Order with respect to the above-captioned action, which raises similar claims and seeks substantially the same relief;

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2021, this Court entered a Stipulation and Consent Order Staying the Proceeding for sixty days until April 26, 2021, Dkt. No. 29;

WHEREAS, on April 7, 2021, EPA submitted a proposed final rule entitled "Strengthening Transparency in Pivotal Science Underlying Significant Regulatory Actions and Influential Scientific Information; Vacatur Rule" to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs ("OIRA") of the Office of Management and Budget for review pursuant to Executive Order 12,866 (Sept. 30, 1993), where it remains pending; and

WHEREAS, the parties agree that a further stay of this matter is appropriate to permit OIRA to complete such review, and to evaluate the effect on this case of EPA's subsequent regulatory action, and it is within the Court's broad discretion to stay proceedings and defer judicial review, *see Landis v. N. Am. Co.*, 299 U.S. 248, 254 (1936);

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and between parties, and the Court hereby ORDERS that:

- 1. All proceedings in this case, including the deadline to answer or otherwise respond to the complaint, are hereby stayed for an additional thirty (30) days from April 26, 2021, to May 26, 2021.
- 2. The parties are directed to submit a status letter within 30 days of the entry of this order outlining a proposal for how this matter will proceed.
- 3. The terms of this Stipulation and Consent Order shall become effective upon its entry by the Court. If the Stipulation and Consent Order is not approved and entered by the Court, it shall be null and void, with no force or effect.
- 4. This Stipulation and Consent Order may be signed in counterparts, each of which constitutes an original and all of which constitute one and the same document. Facsimiles and/or PDFs of signatures shall have the same force and effect as original signatures and constitute acceptable, binding signatures for purposes of the Stipulation and Consent Order.

Dated: New York, New York April 26, 2021

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² Counsel for Defendants represents that the other parties listed in signature blocks on this stipulation and proposed order consent to this filing in accordance with S.D.N.Y. ECF Rule 8.5(b).

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HONORABLE J. PAUL OETKEN
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Dated: New York, New York

. New Fork, New Fork , 2021

^{*}Pro Hac Vice applications pending or to be submitted

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